

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 5, 2008. Claims 7 to 18 are pending in the application, of which Claims 7 and 13 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 7 to 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Publication No. 2004/0111494 (Kostic). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The invention relates to a communication apparatus providing a service to an external device in a UPnP network system. According to the invention, the communication apparatus has a plurality of network connections, each of which is respectively assigned an IP address. The apparatus notifies the external device of the respectively assigned plurality of IP addresses so that the external device can select one of the IP addresses. When one is selected by the external device, the communication apparatus releases the plurality of IP addresses except the selected IP address so that the communication apparatus can provide the service to the external device using the selected IP address.

Referring specifically to the claims, amended independent Claim 7 is directed to a communication apparatus that provides a service to an external device via a network, comprising a plurality of network connection units that are connected to the network, and a control unit that (a) notifies the external device of a plurality of IP addresses assigned respectively to the plurality of network connection units so that the external device can select one of the plurality of IP addresses, and (b) releases the plurality of IP addresses except an IP address selected by the external device so that the communication

apparatus can provide a service to the external device via the network using the IP address selected by the external device.

Claim 13 is a method claim that substantially corresponds to Claim 7.

The applied art of Kostic is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of independent Claims 7 and 13, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of a communication apparatus i) notifying an external device of a plurality of IP addresses assigned respectively to a plurality of network connection units so that the external device can select one of the plurality of IP addresses, and ii) releasing the plurality of IP addresses except an IP address selected by the external device so that the communication apparatus can provide a service to the external device via the network using the IP address selected by the external device.

Kostic is seen to disclose that a control point receives multicast messages from other devices on the network, where the messages include a network address or addresses (if a dual stack/multi-homed device). The message also includes a field that indicate whether the device's address has actually changed from a previous address. Thus, in Kostic, the control point receives network addresses of other devices and stores those addresses to be selected for later communication with the respective device. However, Kostic is not seen to teach that the control point notifies each device (or any device) on the network of a plurality of IP addresses so that the device can select an IP address, and then releasing the remaining of the IP addresses once the device selects one so that the control point can provide the service the device using the selected IP address. In this regard, at paragraph [0051], which is referred to in the Office Action, Kostic merely selects a local address available to a particular interface or a set of interfaces provided in the control

point. However, Kostic is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of a communication apparatus i) notifying an external device of a plurality of IP addresses assigned respectively to a plurality of network connection units so that the external device can select one of the plurality of IP addresses, and ii) releasing the plurality of IP addresses except an IP address selected by the external device so that the communication apparatus can provide a service to the external device via the network using the IP address selected by the external device.

In view of the foregoing, Claims 7 and 13 are not believed to be anticipated by Kostic. Accordingly, Claims 7 and 13, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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